



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	
)	
P. Martinez, et al.)	Group Art Unit: 3743
)	
Serial No.: 10/716,970)	Examiner: D. Doster Greene
)	
Filed: November 18, 2003)	
)	
For: BREATHING GAS FEED ASSEM-)	
BLY FOR AIRCRAFT FLIGHT)	
CREW, AND A STOWAGE BOX)	
FOR AN EMERGENCY BREATH-)	
ING MASK)	

Attorney Docket No. 41052/294321

**DECLARATION OF PATRICE MARTINEZ,
PHILIPPE GERARD, BENOIT LELIEVRE,
AND DOMINIQUE LEMASSON**

We, Patrice Martinez, Philippe Gerard, Benoit Lelievre, and
Dominique Lemasson, hereby declare that:

1. We are co-inventors of the subject matter described and claimed in
the above-identified application. We submit this Declaration to present evidence that
we conceived and reduced to practice the subject matter of claims 1-2 and 8-10 of the
application prior to July 19, 2002, which we understand to be the filing date of U.S.
Patent No. 6,886,713 to Scherrer.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

2. Attached hereto as Exhibits 1-4 are copies of digital photographs of a constructed version of the invention taken prior to July 19, 2002. Attached as Exhibit 5 is a copy of a digital screen capture, made prior to July 19, 2002, of a computer-aided design (CAD) drawing depicting aspects of the invention. Collectively, Exhibits 1-5 illustrate all features of claims 1-2 and 8-10 of the application.

3. Respecting claim 1, for example, Exhibits 1, 2, 4, and 5 illustrate a stowage box for a flight crew breathing mask, the box including a frame having an open face through which the mask may be inserted and extracted. Exhibits 1, 4, and 5 depict the mask inserted into the frame, while Exhibit 2 shows the mask in the process of either being inserted or extracted. Exhibits 2 and 4 additionally well illustrate the open face of the frame.

4. Further respecting claim 1, Exhibits 1 and 4 depict two doors closing the open face of the frame. Such doors are hinged about hinge axes situated on adjacent edges of the open face (see particularly Exhibit 4), with the axes being oriented substantially perpendicularly to each other. Exhibit 2 depicts one of the two doors in an open position--thus illustrating action of the associated hinge--and Exhibit 3 illustrates a variant of the invention in which two slightly different hinged doors cover the face of the frame.

5. Respecting claim 2, Exhibit 4 well details the substantially triangular plate of which each of the two doors is formed. Likewise illustrated particularly in Exhibit 4 are the generally-right-triangle nature and hinging of the doors.

6. Consistent with claims 8 and 9, Exhibits 1, 2, and 4 show an emergency breathing mask with gas delivery equipment. Exhibit 4, in particular, also illustrates the gas delivery equipment occupying a corner of the face opposite that at which the hinge axes intersect. Exhibit 4 additionally depicts notches in the doors (as do Exhibits 1 and 2) and handle lugs on the mask passing beyond the notches and projecting from the face. Protrusion of the handle lugs permits the mask to be grasped even when the doors are closed.

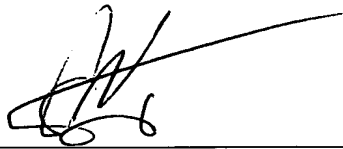
7. Finally, respecting claim 10, Exhibit 2 especially well illustrates a regulator forming part of the breathing mask, which regulator may be connected to a flexible hose for supplying oxygen. Exhibits 2 and 5 similarly well illustrate the diagonal orientation of the mask relative to the sides of the open face of the frame, with Exhibits 1 and 4 showing the two doors (as noted earlier). Exhibits 1 and 4 establish that a fraction of the regulator projects through the face, and Exhibit 2 shows an open position of the doors permitting the mask to pass through the face. Exhibit 2 likewise depicts pivoting of a door as described in the claim.

8. The assemblies depicted in Exhibits 1-4 and represented in Exhibit 5 were developed, and Exhibits 1-5 themselves were created, in France. We have redacted all dates from Exhibits 1-5, as we understand we are entitled to do.

9. Each of the declarants hereby declares that all statements made herein of his own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and


that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Date: March 10/2006



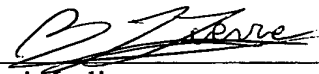
Patrice Martinez

Date: March 10, 2006



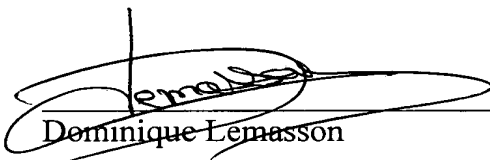
Philippe Gerard

Date: March 10, 2006



Benoit Lelievre

Date: March 10, 2006



Dominique Lemasson

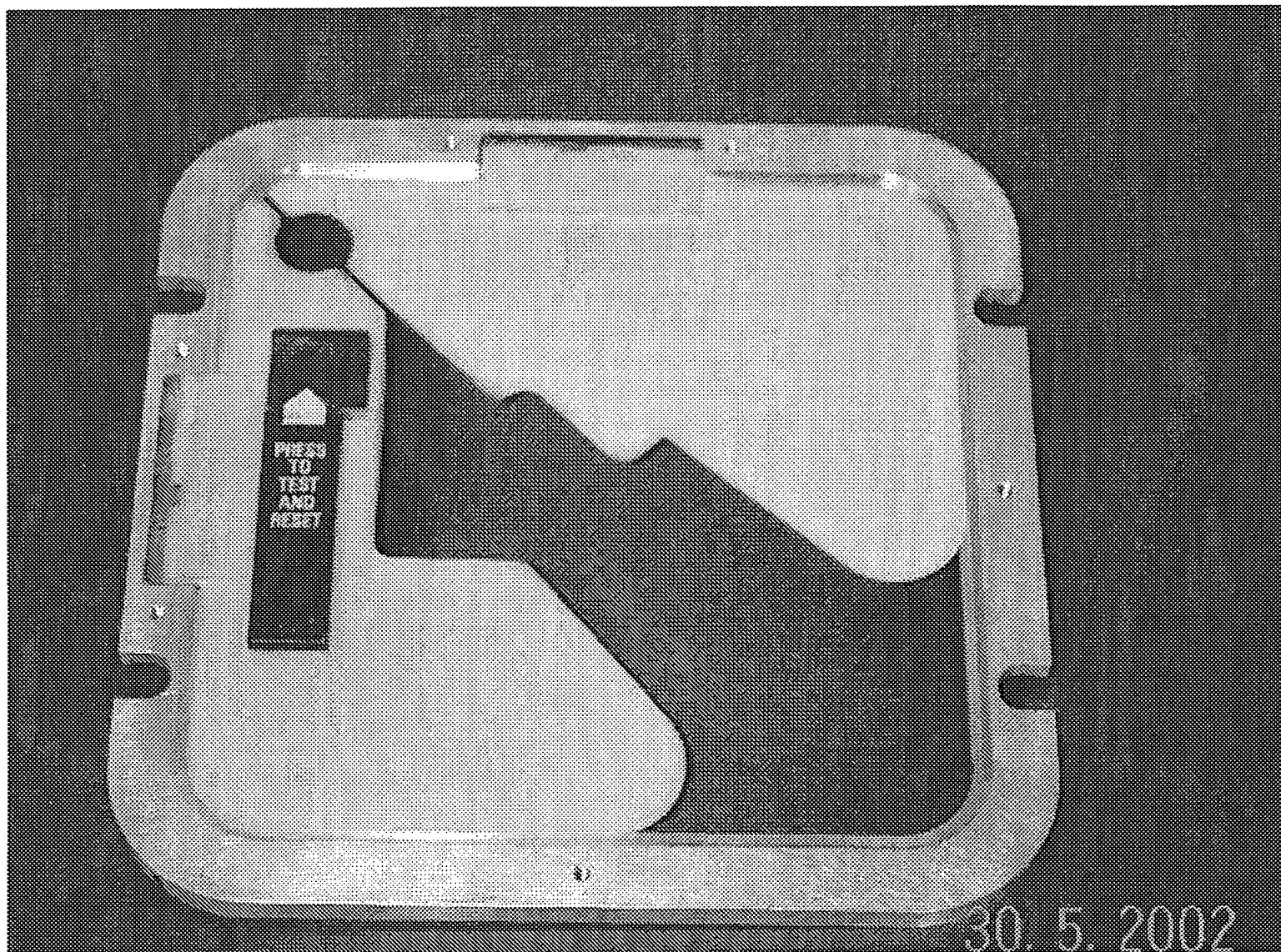


30 5 2002

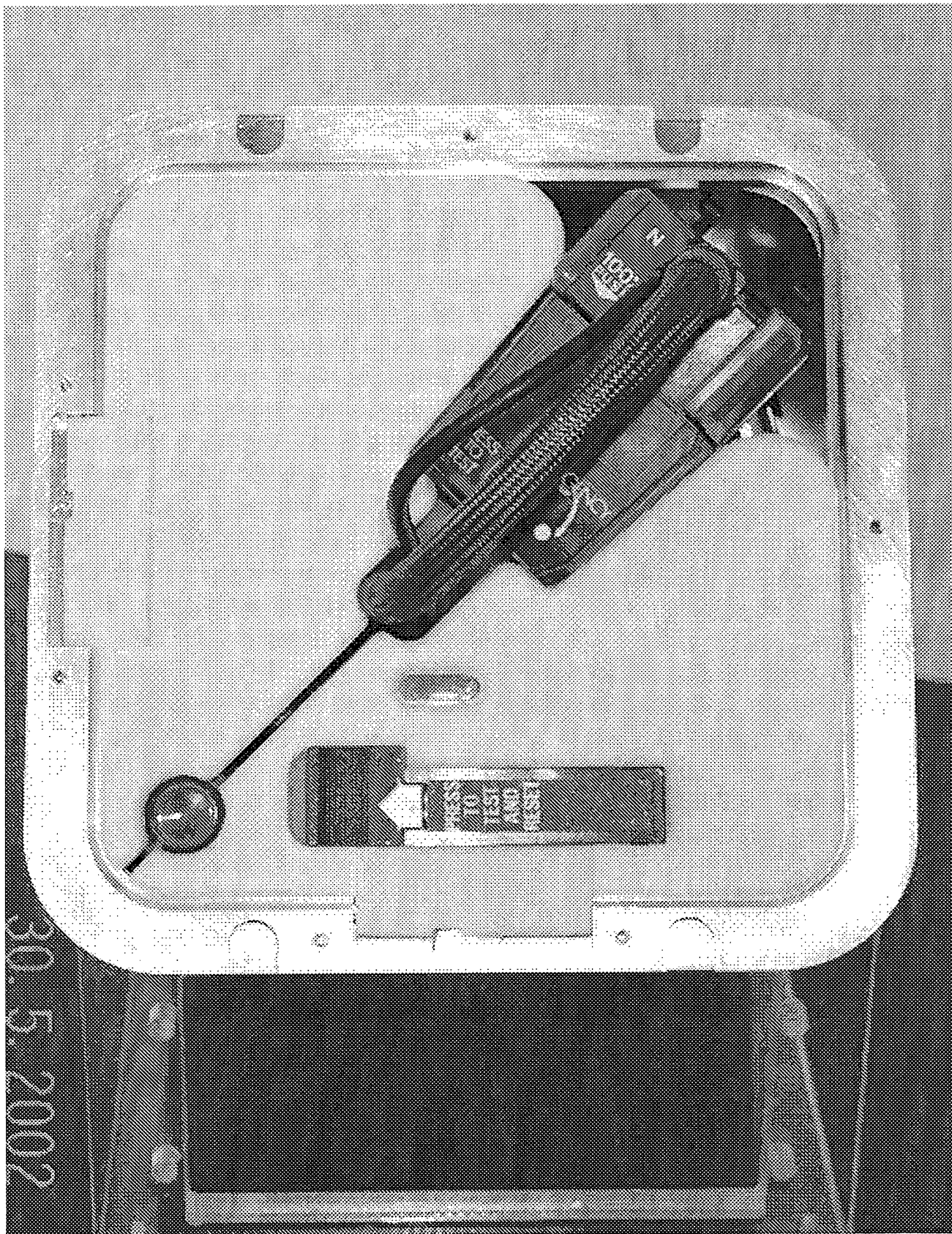
BEST AVAILABLE COPY



BEST AVAILABLE COPY



BEST AVAILABLE COPY



BEST AVAILABLE COPY

